

Church Life

VOLUME II.

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NUMBER III.



Christ at the Home in Bethany.

Running The Blockade.

February is a delightful month for railway travel. The dust and weariness and heat and cinders, which make the stuffy cars so disagreeable a place in summer, are all absent. In a three-days' trip, from Chicago to Halifax, we had every comfort which official thoughtfulness could provide. Not an hour were we delayed on account of snow or storm, though the drifts in Quebec and northern New Brunswick were the mightiest I have ever seen or dreamed of. The trouble came when we reached Halifax.

The young man who carried my suit-case from the depot told me some weird tales. According to his strange story 65 miles of bleak and wintry wilderness lay between me and my destination. Coal, he said, had given out. Schools were closed. Churches were closed. Flour was twelve dollars a barrel in Kentville. Railways were blocked. Trains were cancelled. Mails had stopped. Highways were filled with huge snow-drifts, stretching from fence to fence and towering often far above all fences. The Annapolis Valley was a collection of isolated fortresses, connected only by non-food-supplying and non-fuel producing telegraph and telephone wires.

The morning after I arrived the first mail reached Halifax; the friend with whom I stayed received a letter from his son, a student at Wolfville, posted 11 days before. But there were no trains.

After waiting at the capital for more than a reasonable length of time, I determined to be misled no longer by the very courteous and hypocritical replies of the railway officials to my insistent inquiries. Seizing a convenient 'phone, I invaded, through its quick agency, a livery-stable, and coralled the proprietor. He told me that it would take ten dollars in money and eight hours in time to change my temporary residence from Halifax to Windsor. He agreed to have his horse fed and his rig ready in half an hour. He promised to drive me himself. All these facts, agreements and promises were communicated and arranged in less than one minute, after I had hung for two anxious and impatient days upon the honeyed accents of the railway men.

At 3:30 we left the house in Dartmouth

where I had been royally entertained during my days of waiting. At 3:50 we had crossed the harbor. At 4:10 we had despatched divers and sundry errands in the city, and had begun our journey toward the West and the setting sun. Near Bedford we met 41 wild-eyed and patient beasts, who plunged past us through the drifts. They were "dumb, driven cattle," who were taking a long "constitutional," having started from Bridgetown, 100 miles away, nearly a week before. They were not travelling for their health, but for the health of others, as we were informed that they were planning to transform themselves at an early date into juicy roasts and enticing sirloins for the benefit of the patrons of the Halifax market.

At Bedford we paused to take breath and to gain a respite from the bitter cold and the blinding sleet. Within the hotel we met a bald-headed gentleman from Kentville who had just arrived from the beleaguered district, and was toasting his feet at the fire. He told us, for our comfort, that the roads could not be worse, and that if our horse should step too far to right or left she would simply disappear. He strongly advised us to remain where we were over night and return to Halifax in the morning. Thus cheered and encouraged we moved on. The sleety snow had turned to hail, and cut our faces mercilessly. The hail stones were large and came by millions, so that soon the horse was drawing the sleigh through a heavy slush of hail, like sand or pebbles. The wind was keen. It had grown very dark. The track became fainter and fainter, and then was lost to view. On and on we drove, until the blackness above and the unbroken waste of whiteness beneath bewildered us. It was verily "a clean sheet." Our business was to follow a game of "blind man's buff." At last a house appeared. The driver asked, "Shall we stop?" I said, "How far to the next stopping place?" "Five or six miles." "Then," I answered, "taking all phases of the question into consideration, we had better have something to eat." Which we had. We were cordially welcomed, and two young ladies took turns in playing gospel hymns on the melodeon as an ac-

companionment, while we discussed roast pork and "fixins."

After a short sleep we arose at 3:30 a. m. and resumed our journey. As it was three or four hours before sunrise we could see no track before us, and soon the entire aggregation,—rugs, valises, men, horse, sleigh, and incidentals,—was lost to view in a vast white sea of snow, only a few stray heads and ears remaining above the surface. The process of "digging out" varied the monotony of the drizzling drive in "the wee sma' hours." This "episode" was the happy harbinger of many similar experiences in the hours that followed. There was variety in the weather, too. It was always doing something. It rained in several fashions or styles, including the Scotch mist, the patter, and the down-pour. It snowed large and feathery; also small, swift and business-like. It hailed. It sleeted. It blustered. There were also combinations. The skies snivelled, they wept, they boo-hooed; but never once did they smile.

At Mt. Uniacke, "the Mound" as the natives call it, we had breakfast, after 16 miles of driving, fasting and playing hide-and-seek with the horse. For about an hour the good-natured serving-maid trotted in and out between the kitchen and dining-room, bringing us eggs, beef, pork, sauerkraut, brown bread, white bread, johnny cake, cream cheese, English breakfast tea, pickles, preserves, oatmeal porridge, baked potatoes, buns and extras.

Four more hours of strenuous traveling followed. We reached Windsor at one o'clock, I with a plaid shawl falling gracefully about head and shoulders, the driver smoking his black pipe turned upside down, the horse on the dead gallop, loping along at a tremendous rate in a final wind-up, the rain pouring in torrents. Boys hurrahed, school girls giggled, respectable citizens stared at us in stolid wonder. We drove straight to the railway station, where we were told that a train would probably leave in half-an-hour for Kentville. I had heard so many similar stories in Halifax that my heart sank. We drove to the Victoria Hotel. I registered, and called to the proprietor, "Can I have something to eat?" "Dinner is just ready," he answered, "but are you going farther?" I said, "To Wolfville." "Well," he exclaimed, excitedly, "you can get a chance part way if you hurry. There's a man out

there who is going to Hantsport NOW." The last word blew me out through the hotel door, and the storm door, and into the street. I hailed the man, waylaid him, prevailed upon him, so that he agreed to take me, although he had two other passengers and a heavy load. The gentlemanly courtesy of those two strangers really made possible my passage.

We unfortunately took the "bog road," and so were tipped out at quite regular intervals for the seven miles of our trip. At Hantsport we tried the effect of telegrams upon P. Gifkins, the manager of the railroad, but we only got sauvity and vague suggestions in reply. We besought three several liverymen to convey us to Wolfville, vainly. Then we approached Mr. Burgess, who was graciously indulgent to our behest. At 5:30 we embarked in two sleighs, and also in a whirling, swirling tempest of snow. After we started our driver became a pessimist. He sought in every way to persuade us to return to Hantsport, to wait for the train at Avonport, etc. We were obdurate. The contract had been made and must be kept. The horses were powerful, energetic and ambitious. They dared the snow-swept track ahead as the Japs the fortress of Port Arthur. We covered this last part of our journey in two hours. Wolfville hailed our coming even more emphatically than had Windsor; and just as we entered the town the rink roof sank to earth with a crashing salute, like a salvo of artillery greeting the conquering heroes.

All that afternoon the Seminary students, while skating, had noticed a sound as of the cracking of ice; and not knowing, of course, whence it proceeded, had paid little attention to it. Leaving at a quarter of six they gaily planned to go again in the evening, this being their first promised opportunity of enjoying an evening skate there.

The manager, Mr. Heales, had left all in good order at six. At seven an impatient crowd awaited his reappearance to admit them. Just as the door was being opened a thunderous crash startled the whole business part of Wolfville—the roof of the rink, loaded with thousands of tons of snow and ice, had fallen in, taking with it parts of the walls.

Had this event happened one hour later, 300 young people would have been crushed to death.

A. deB

Douglas Improvement Association.

For the information of those readers who are comparatively new residents in the District, it may be well to state that this is an Association of about 750 householders, resident in the district bounded by 31st street, 35th street, Indiana avenue, and Cottage Grove avenue.

This Association was formed just one year ago, for the purpose of improving physical conditions of residence by keeping streets and alleys clean, by thorough street sprinkling in Summer and Fall months, care of vacant lots, (so that instead of being dumping grounds for all manner of rubbish, they have become slightly grass covered spaces), and the education of the people as to what the clean Street Ordinance of the City of Chicago requires and forbids.

The Association elected a Board of Directors consisting of fifteen men and ten women who immediately set to work organizing a service which is unsurpassed by any similar Association in the city, and has become a model for many of them.

It may be news to many of our readers that there are 19 such Associations in the city which are federated, and that the Federation has just raised a considerable sum of money to defray expenses of organizing similar associations in the poorer parts of the city, where the residents are keenly alive to the necessities of the situation, but haven't the money or experience to make a start unaided.

The residents of the Douglas District are so familiar with the red carts and sprinkling wagon of the Association, which have been going up and down the streets and alleys since the 15th of April, that it is only necessary to say that the work done speaks for itself.

Last October after a careful canvas of financial conditions, the Directors decided that it would be possible to undertake to keep the 10 miles of sidewalk in good condition through the winter, by the use of snow plows supplemented by hand labor.

The severe weather in January and February which coated the walks with ice from 4 to 7 inches thick complicated matters somewhat, but within a short time the entire 10 miles of ice was thoroughly covered

with sand, so that walking was possible, and when the thaw finally came, a large force of men by the use of picks, ice scrapers and nearly a ton of rock salt, soon cleared the walks and every street crossing, so that while residents in other parts of the city were almost swimming home, the residents of the Douglas District walked home dry shod.

It may be interesting to know that the Association has spent nearly \$7,000 since last April, including the cost of its plant which now embraces 4 snow plows, 10 carts, Horse Reel and Horse for washing asphalt streets in summer, and a generous supply of the various tools necessary for the proper performance of its work. This large sum of money, and the further amount necessary to continue the work to the end of its fiscal year May 1st, has been raised not by assessment, but by subscriptions of the members, who have subscribed and paid cheerfully, (generally on a basis of \$12 a year for 25 foot frontage) for they realized that they were getting more than value received for their money.

Next year the Directors hope to be able to accomplish the only thing that was lacking last summer, which is sprinkling the alleys.

To this end they are circulating special subscription cards for alley sprinkling.

The good housewives who are so annoyed (especially on wash days) by the clouds of dust from the alleys, will appreciate the benefits to be derived from this work and will doubtless see to it that the Alley Sprinkling subscription is a success.

If the subscription is a success the work will be done as thoroughly as all Douglas Association work always is done, and the District will then be Clean, Dustless, Sanitary, and in all respects the best section of Chicago for good people to live.

At the meeting of the Board of Directors held March 2nd, 1905, the following officers were elected to serve for the ensuing year:

President, Herbert C. Metcalf.
Vice President, Joseph Beifeld.
Vice President, H. G. McCartney.
Secretary, John M. Graves.
Treasurer, Wm. M. Baker.

All re-elections except the Vice Presidents.

Mr. Clifford Williams continues as chairman of the Executive Committee.

The Directors hope this year to enlist the remaining 450 householders of the District.

In the comparatively short time the Association has been working, it has not been possible to see the entire 1,200 residents, and it is hoped that the members will help

in this work by seeing their neighbors.

The First Church is well represented in this good work by the very efficient Superintendent Mr. J. E. Steele, and by Mr. Geo. J. Pope, Mr. Clifford Williams, Mrs. Geo. J. Pope, and Mrs. Clifford Williams, on the Board of Directors, as well as by Dr. deBlois, Theodore Wilken, Miss Davies, and a large number of others, who though not officially connected with the Association are enthusiastic members of it, and tireless workers for its success.



The Church at Work

SUNDAY SCHOOL.

Primary Department.

We are glad to welcome back to our ranks Miss Mae Fralick, who found it necessary to give up her class of girls some months ago.

Our sympathies are with Miss Tolman, who is now obliged to be away from us for a time. One of the most faithful of teachers, her presence is one we all miss and our prayers are for her speedy recovery.

Our attendance jumped from one hundred and seventy one stormy Sunday to two hundred and fifty the next. Our little "fishermen" have been doing good work. We can crowd in over one hundred additional chairs.

After a short absence from the city Miss Young is again with us. Ever a willing and capable helper, we hope her plans will permit of her being with us regularly.

We wish to take this means of expressing our thanks to the Ladies' Benevolent Society for the bright and cheerful room they have given us and also for the secretaries cabinet.

The officers of the Department are very much pleased with the manner in which Miss Edith Ahrens and Mr. Merrifield have conducted the Girls and Boys graduating class.

We are delighted to see so many teachers and officers in their places at 9:30, and we know they enjoy being there on time,

and realize how much smoother and better every thing works, than it does when they come late.

Intermediate Department.

Let us all work together to make our Sunday school the best in Chicago. We are all alive in day school, college, business, society or politics and let's be alive in our Sunday school. Good red blood, good live interest and we will all want to get up early on Sunday and our action will become contagious and every one in the church will be in the school before long and we will wonder why it was not ever thus.

We have reason every Sunday morning to congratulate ourselves because of our faithful and able director of music, Prof. D. R. Leland. The improvement in our singing the last few months has been remarkable and all due to the efforts of Mr. Leland. Our new books are proving to be even better than we anticipated and our singing is one of the delightful exercises of the morning and improves each Sunday.

We miss our "reception committee" at the door at 9:30, each Sunday morning. We mean Deacon Parker. He is with us nearly every Sunday, but does not feel able to stand at the door as he has for so many years welcoming all of us Sunday after Sunday. Don't you think it is our turn to make him welcome. Let every one, old or young, greet him most cordially every Sunday he is there. You will continue to receive a warm welcome from Mrs.

CHURCH LIFE.

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Clifford Williams, who has succeeded Deacon Parker in this pleasant and important duty.

Considerable interest is being taken in the attendance banner to be given for regular and early attendance of the classes. The banner will be awarded March 13th, for January and February.

"Sunday school a 9:30 a. m." is beginning to mean at half past nine, the teachers and officers and pupils are in their places and school is open at that time. Last Sunday one teacher late and one absent was the record.

Class organization is a good thing for the school, for the class and for the scholar. A teacher loyal to her class, a class loyal to the teacher and all loyal to the school will build up any Sunday School. We rejoice in the Aniolet Henson Guild Class, the Lorimer Class and now we have the Judson Class, the class taught by C. A. Peinkowsky having adopted that name.

In General.

It is very gratifying and encouraging to note a general improvement all along the line. A decided increase in early attendance, a deeper interest and more enthusiasm on the part of teachers and officers.

The school as a whole, will be just what the individual teacher and officer and scholar is; and the improvement so noticeable the past two months, is due to the personal interest and effort of each, and the Superintendent takes this opportunity and means of congratulating and thanking each one.

Let the good work go on, and each individual scholar.

We are glad to see the increased interest in, and attendance at, the teachers instruction class, taught by Mrs. Lamoreaux, which meets every Monday evening, at 8 o'clock. More of our teachers, and members of the church who are not actively identified with the Sunday school, are attending; this is very gratifying, and we hope still more will avail themselves of the opportunity; no one interested in the Sunday school or in the future life and character of the boy and girl can afford to miss any of these lessons and lectures. All are cordially invited, the charges are

fixed, so it costs us no more if 200 attend than if only 20 attended. Come and help make the 200—if you can not afford to pay anything, you are just as welcome as though you paid the whole bill.

We are now having an average attendance of 80 to 90, and hope for, at least, 150 by April 1st. They continue until May 1st, will be so influenced we long, that the entire school will be enthusiastic, every thing move like clock work, and wonderful results for the Master will follow.

(a)—The chairman of committees for 1905, have been appointed as follows:
For entire School:

Childrens Day—Mrs R. F. Bennett.

Music—D. R. Leland.

Picnic—Jas. Barron.

Intermediate Department:

Easter Sunday—Miss Helen Pickett.

Xmas Entertainments—Miss Isabel Wilken.

Primary Department:

Easter Sunday—Miss Ida Witte.

Xmas Entertainment—Miss E. Lingle.

Junior Primary:

Xmas Entertainment—Mrs. A. E. Thomas.

CHRISTIAN ENDEAVOR SOCIETY.

Miss E. M. Pickett, Dept. Editor.

The society work has been going steadily forward, good meetings, with good fellowship, and new members added each month. This month, Mr. B. R. Riedel, and Miss Josephine Brown.

The Chicago Christian Endeavor Union held an interesting Rally on February 7th, at the Y. M. C. A. The address was given by J. W. Fifield of Kansas City.

The Union also joined in the usual Missionary Rally with the Student Volunteers, Epworth League and Baptist Union, on Washington's Birthday.

The South Division Christian Endeavor Union announces an Evangelistic Rally for Thursday evening, March 23rd, which will be held in our own church. There are good and sufficient reasons for our taking special interest in this particular Rally.

The topic is of Universal interest the place is the best, and to us the most beloved—the speaker is Rev. John Baleohn Shaw of the Second Presbyterian Church.

our own Society should be cordial as well as nominal hosts. There is an attendance banner to be won, and we should by no means fall out by the way in that contest. Show your loyalty by your attendance. This is early enough to be a previous engagement for all of our members, and also in time to claim attention from all who are interested in this work.

LADIES' BENEVOLENT SOCIETY.

Mrs. N. Morava, Dept. Editor.

During the month of February, in direct contrast to the cold and disagreeable conditions outside, sunshine and happiness filled the church parlors and reigned supreme in the hearts of the Ladies' Benevolent Society.

Reports from the various branches of the work spoke well for the zealous workers. On February 17th, while sewing for the little people in the Home of Missionaries Children at Morgan Park kept the fingers of some actively employed, others were occupied in making arrangements for future work.

WOMEN'S MISSION CIRCLE.

Mrs. S. B. Lingle.

The Annual meeting of the Women's Mission Circle, held on February tenth, showed a spirit of hopefulness, and an earnest purpose to make each succeeding year more full of patient effort and prayerful service, in this work of world wide missions, which is the legacy left to His children by the Master who so long ago, said go ye into all the world.

During the year just closed one hundred women of our church have contributed to both Home and Foreign Missions through the Circle. The meetings have paid an average attendance of sixty-two. Mrs. Ketman reported nineteen members of the Baby Band for Home Missions, with \$4.65 received. Twenty members of Little Helpers for Foreign Missions, \$3.80 received. The Treasurer's Annual report showed \$422.98 given to Home Mission, \$224.57 to Foreign Missions.

The receipts since the annual meeting encourage us to believe that the apportionment to both the Women's Home and For-

eign Mission Societies will be met, which is a cause of grateful joy.

It was a pleasure to hear from Mrs. Boynton, of the new work undertaken by the Home Mission Society during the year. This is among the Chinese, the Italians, the Bohemians, and Poles. Mr. Speckler, who had just returned from a trip around the world interested all as he spoke of his own increased faith in the work of missionary effort. The report of the nominating committees resulted in retaining the present officers of the Circle.

The social following the program was especially enjoyed. The table was presided over by Mrs. Gale, Mrs. Austin and Mrs. Morava.

The Concert of Old Time Music.

The long expected Concert of old time music occurred on the sixteenth of February and was greatly enjoyed by all present.

The costumes as well as the music brought vividly before us the friends of the sixties and we seemed indeed to be living in the long ago. The serious pathetic, patriotic and comical appealed to us in rapid succession until it was uncertain whether the smile or tears would rule the evening. The monologue by Mrs. McLaury gave a pleasing variety to the program, and was so skillfully given that her personality was quite lost in that of the morning caller in the country village.

The Circle is greatly indebted to the committee who made such perfect arrangements, and to all the participants who so generously ministered to our enjoyment.

This is the first effort of the Circle to raise money for missions outside of the regular contributions of its members. The sum of one hundred and forty dollars thus secured has helped greatly toward our apportionment to the two Women's Societies to which our circle is auxiliary.

THE YOUNG LADIES' MISSIONARY SOCIETY

May E. Fralick, Dept. Editor

On February, the fifteenth, the Young Ladies' Missionary Society met at the home of Miss Eunice Baker. The girls hemmed towels for the Baptist Hospital. They discussed the advisability of reading, at the meetings of the society books ap-

pertaining to missions.

On March, the eighth, we met at the home of Miss Celia McCullough. The girls hemmed towels and we read aloud from the Komo Siga, which is the life-story of the missionary, Mrs. Scott.

AMORET HENSON GUILD.

B. N. Harvey, Dept. Editor.

The Amoret Henson Guild was splendidly entertained at its February meeting by Mrs. McLaurey, who gave several readings from "Mr. Dooley" and as an encore, impersonated, in costume, and Irish woman, purchasing shoes for no less an occasion than her son's prospective wedding. Peal after peal of laughter showed how the girls appreciated her splendid imitation of the Irish brogue and they could scarcely be persuaded to give up the repeating of the "Morning Call," which Mrs. McLaurey gave with such success at the Old Folks' Concert. Mrs. McLaurey has promised to come to us again, however, and she will surely be held to the promise. We appreciate very much her kindness in giving us such a treat. The Misses Gale, Miss Leila Ahrens and Miss Grace Googins gave us some delightful musical numbers, as well. We are just finding out what a wealth of talent we have within our own membership and mean to put it to good use in future.

Our president, Miss Chandler, suggested a sewing circle, to meet once in two weeks and do sewing for charity, in connection with the Guild. This is partly to show that the Guild is not an organization without a purpose. Miss Van Fleet suggested in her little talk to the girls on Monday night, that no one ever need say, however, that this is true of the Guild. She says it is an infinite help to her in her calling upon strange young women to have just such an organization to tell them of and to be able to invite them to our social evenings, sure as she is, that they will be warmly welcomed and well entertained.

The Glee Club

It has been decided by the Guild Executive Committee, to disband the Glee Club. It has been a source of great pleasure and profit to the girls but lately has been very hard to find a time when all could meet as well as a source of great expense. It

has been entirely dependent upon the Guild proper for its support and that body has no income except through a small fee which barely pays the expense of the supper, once a month. Thus it has seemed the wisest plan to give it up for the present at least, which many of us regret exceedingly. We wish to thank Prof. Havens for his loyal support.

The Bible Class.

Come and see our crowded room Sunday mornings and see for yourselves that we are working. Calling and sociability are doing wonders for us, and the splendid efforts of our teacher, Miss Van Fleet, are telling. Our study of Old Testament characters (we have just finished that of Joseph) is intensely interesting.

We had a social and business meeting last Thursday night, to which some twenty girls came. We have done some things and we mean to do more. Wouldn't you like to join our forces?

THE LORIMER CLASS.

Dr. Chandler spoke to the class Monday evening, Feb. 13th, on "Medicine as a profession." The information and facts given by Dr. Chandler were keenly appreciated by all present. This was followed by a social period and refreshments.

Watch for the announcement of our next meeting. Another speaker will be secured.

Sunday, March 5th, Mr. Williamson was unanimously elected Manager of the 1905 Baseball team. Mr. Craig was also elected as our representative for the Board of Control of the Sunday School Baseball League.

We are glad to have our President, Mr. Henry Chase with us again, and wish him a most speedy recovery from the effects of his recent accident.

BOY'S CLUB.

The club has held its meetings regularly each week with good attendance.

There has been a considerable increase in the membership, two or three new members being received each week.

The athletic sports have been the most interesting part of the meeting to our boys. Mr. Messner, director of this branch of our work has stimulated considerable

enthusiasm among the boys, and they have been bringing in their friends.

Refreshments are served by the social committee each second Saturday of the month, and are enjoyed very much.

The President Roy Todd, and several other officers of the club, attended a con-

ference of Boys Club workers, and were called upon for many suggestions on the work. It was said there that our organization is one of the best of its kind.

We always welcome visitors, who are interested in our work. We meet each Saturday evening, from 7 to 9 o'clock.



The Pastor's Message.

Our Woman's Mission Circle has indeed wrought a triumph. The full amount of \$950, which the members of this splendid organization had been striving for, and which was the sum assigned them by the general society to raise, has been secured. They were aided by the Christian Endeavor Society and the Young Ladies' Missionary Society, but the bulk of the undertaking was accomplished by the ladies' society. The greatest credit and congratulations are due to Mrs. Gillette and her faithful co-laborers. Among the reports presented at the annual meeting of the Union the other day our society stood easily first among all the churches of the city. We surely have cause for gratitude and praise because our church has this habit of heading the list and standing "first" in so many efforts and enterprises, in comparison with those of other churches. This has been true during the past few months of our Christian Endeavor, our Benevolent Society and our Mission Circle.

For more than seventy years the "Old First" has been a missionary church. This is one of its chief glories. Its men and women have possessed the large view, the warm heart and the willing mind, which distinguish the Christians of the evangelical and missionary type. They have founded missions which have grown into strong and self-sustaining churches. They have contributed nobly to work in distant lands. Many missionaries, prospective mis-

sionaries, and ex-missionaries have been numbered in their membership. May we never fail to be known for our large and generous gifts to this supremely important service!

Illustrations of the far-reaching influence of our church I am constantly meeting. In conversation the other day with three ladies, one of them said, "I love the First Church because I was a member there for several years." The second lady said, "I was baptized in that church, and my father's funeral was held there." The third lady added with deep feeling, "I belonged there for twenty years, and it still seems to me just like home." These ladies now belong to churches at a distance from here, but it was profoundly interesting to notice their affection for the old home-church. In a letter which I received the other day from a lady in St. Louis, she said, "The people here are very cordial and pleasant, but oh, how I long for the dear old Chicago church. There is no church like it anywhere."

I felt this fact very forcibly last Sunday when I received so hearty a greeting, after my brief visit to Nova Scotia. Such an experience, with friends crowding about to welcome one back, with noble and appreciative words, is truly a bit of heaven on earth. God bless you, everyone!

Your Pastor,

Austen Kennedy de Blois.



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CENSUS RESULTS.

We published last month a history of the Religious Census taken by our church. That history is not complete in one chapter. The results of this campaign will have a part in each chapter of the subsequent history of our beloved church. The increased attendance at our services is in no small measure due to this cause. Let us be sure to gather the results of this widening influence upon the lives of people as yet unreached. Our workers are calling on all who had a preference for the Baptist Church but when they succeed in getting them to come to the church, the work is only begun. A warm welcome, a personal interest, a friendly call, a friendship must follow.

PERSONALS AND OTHER NOTES.

We are sorry to report the severe illness of Mr. Harvey.

Miss Alice Martin entertained a large company of young people recently.

Mr. Bowman Lingle will receive all subscription to the Raymond work.

Your pledge to the new chapel is needed now. Mr. Twiss is treasurer of the fund.

Dr. Lounsbury, Sec'y of the Foreign Mission Board will preach for us next Sunday morning.

Miss Clara Stowell gave a house party to a delighted company our young people March 4th.

A union prayer service is held every Monday, from 12 to 2 p. m., in the First Methodist Church.

The mother of our Mr. Rhenish has come to live with her son and will be a member of our congregation.

Exceptionally large audiences listened to the excellent sermons by Dr. Butler and Dr. Henderson last Sunday morning.

Mrs. Cowlin, a reader with a growing reputation who has located on the south side, very kindly favored us with a number of selection, at Raymond recently.

Miss Luella Tolman is suffering from a broken hip, the result of a fall sustained on her way from her work on the evening of Feb. 24th. She is at the Baptist Hospital.

Miss May Titterington passed through a serious operation at the Baptist Hospital on February 20th. She is speedily regaining her strength and hopes soon to be with us again.

Thursday evening, March 23rd, the South Division of Chicago C. E. Union will hold an Evangelistic Rally in our church. A program of special interest has been prepared by our Mr. Van Meter who has charge of the C. E. Evangelistic work. Rev. John Balcom Shaw of the Second Presbyterian Church is the speaker.

RAYMOND CHAPEL NOTES.

The Woman's Society met last week at the home of Mrs. Saker.

Our primary department is steadily improving under the leadership of Miss Harvey.

Support the Tuesday evening prayer service. You need the meeting—the meeting needs you.

The Raymond Girls Club is growing in numbers and interest under the direction of Miss Lingle and Miss Laekner.

Mrs. Johnson, who was quite ill with the grip is much better.

The Tom Reed Club is to be congratulated on the success of their recent banquet.

The next meeting of the girls club will be held Wednesday evening, March 29th, at the home of Miss Mabel Turek.

George Clifford Cress will lecture on "Sunshine and Storm among the Matabele, the 'Apaches' of South Africa," March 21st, 8 p. m. Do not fail to hear him.

Mr. Fred Wadie recovered quickly from the effects of the accident by which he lost a foot and is now going about as usual with little visible evidence of his loss.

Miss Rosie Sieght, a former member of our school, in Miss Barr's class, died suddenly two weeks ago. Our heartfelt sympathy is extended to her family.

Mr. and Mrs. Horace Wigney have rented the flat just vacated by Mr. and Mrs. Austermell, at 3133 Parnell Ave. This therefore will continue to be a popular resort for Raymond folk.

Mrs. Barr (Miss Chase) who has been in poor health for some time was stricken with partial paralysis about three weeks ago. We rejoice to learn she is recovering, although slowly.

We are sorry to have to report that Bro. Henry Chase is not recovering as quickly as hoped for from his injury. His class of girls miss him greatly and we all hope to have him with us again soon.

Mr. Wigney having resigned as treasurer of Raymond Chapel Building Fund and of the Current Expense Fund. Mr. Bowman Lingle has been elected treasurer of the latter. Money for the New Building should be paid to Mr. Twiss, now in charge of it, or to Mr. Embree for him.

Friday, March 24th, there will be a social at the home of Mrs. Wadie, 33rd and Union avenue, given by the Ladies' Aid of Raymond Chapel. Admission 10 cents. The proceeds will go toward defraying the expense of furnishings of the Ladies' Parlor of our new chapel. We sincerely hope that all will attend.

Mrs. Hackendahl has our sympathy and prayers in the great trials through which she is passing. Only a few days ago her sister passed to her reward and last week Mrs. Hackendahl had to submit to a critical operation.

Raymond Chapel has just suffered the loss of its two most valued and beloved

workers. Mr. and Mrs. L. T. Austermell. Mrs. Austermell has been critically ill for many weeks. Most happily she is now all but restored to health but they have decided to move to the suburbs to try what abundance of sunshine and fresh air will do toward building up her strength. Mr. Austermell's health too calls for attention and it is hoped the change will benefit him as well as his wife. They will live at LaGrange.

Almost at the beginning of the Raymond Mission Mr. Austermell in 1888 enrolled himself as a worker. He took a class in the Sunday school and from that day until now the Mission has had no friend more unwavering, self-sacrificing and loyal than he. He taught a class of girls and among them was one quiet but earnest young Christian who a year or two later yielded one day to Bro. Craig's kindly insistence and took a class herself. This was Miss Amy Mason, now Mrs. Austermell who from the time she first entered the work has always been numbered among the "faithful few" who could always be depended upon in fair weather or foul, in prosperous times or adverse. As workers together for Christ they have labored on through the years and now that they must part company with us for awhile there is sorrow in our hearts and in theirs. We are comforted however, to know that their love and prayer are still for the work for which they have given so much and for their part they may know that every one of our company joins in loving prayer that they may gain all that they hope for by the change and soon be able to return in perfect health to again take up the work. "God be with you till we meet again."

Christian Endeavor.

A social was held in the church parlors under the auspices of the Christian Endeavor and the Women's Society, on Friday evening March 3rd. About 100 were present and all enjoyed the program, and refreshments that followed. Mr. Cowlin gave several readings from James Whitecomb Riley and Miss Webb favored us with two vocal solos.

The meetings during the last month have been of especial interest, being well attended and full of the spirit of God. We are looking forward to the time when we shall occupy our new building.

We would urge all Christian Endeavor

members who have not as yet paid their subscriptions to the Building fund, to do so at once as this is the time for all to be paid, so as to start the new home as soon as possible.

The Spring Rally will take place at the Home Church on Thursday evening, March 23rd. Members please take notice and be there, ready to carry away the banner.

THE JOURNAL OF THE CHURCH.

H. F. Perkins, Church Clerk.

February 1. Wednesday, church covenant meeting. Topic: "Concerning the Thoughtless," Acts 2:37-49.

February 3. Friday, Meeting of the Ladies' Benevolent Society. Christian Endeavor anniversary service in charge of the prayer-meeting committee. Topic: "What I owe to Christian Endeavor." Ezk. 47:1-12, Ps. 36:8.

February 4. Saturday, Boys' Club.

February 5. Sunday, Sermons by the Pastor; morning topics: "Spiritual Power in Action," evening: "A Nation Builder. The Young Man with a Purpose."

February 6. Monday, Meeting of the Men's League addressed by Senator Francis W. Parker upon the subject of Chicago's new charter.

Sunday school teachers' study class.

February 8. Wednesday, Church prayer and social service. Theme: "The Soul's Awakening." Luke 9:32.

February 10. Friday, Annual meeting of Women's Mission Circle. Christian Endeavor prayer meeting led by Miss Van Fleet, Topics: "Christ a Servant—and we are servants." Phil. 2:3-11.

February 11. Saturday, Quarterly meeting and dinner of the Board of Ushers.

Meeting of the Boys' Club.

February 12. Sunday, In the morning the Pastor preached upon "The Church in the World" and in the evening upon "A Brave General. The Young Man who Despised Fears."

February 13. Monday, Meeting of the Lorimer Class addressed by Dr. Chandler of the Belden Ave. Church on "The Choice of a Profession."

Sunday School teachers' study class.

February 14. Tuesday, Monthly meeting and dinner of the Board of Deacons.

February 15. Wednesday, Church play-

er and social service. Led by Aasst. Pastor Embree.

February 16. Thursday, An "Old-Time Concert" under the auspices of the Women's Mission Circle.

February 17. Friday, Meeting of the Ladies' Benevolent Society. Christian Endeavor monthly missionary meeting led by Miss Fuller. The work among the Telegus was presented.

February 18. Saturday, Boys' Club.

February 19. Sunday, Sermon by the Pastor; morning theme: "The Simplicity or Richness of Life," evening theme: "A Good Natured Athlete. The Young Judge who Played Practical Jokes."

February 20. Monday, Sunday School teachers' study class.

February 21. Tuesday, Monthly business meeting of the Men's League.

February 22. Wednesday, Church monthly missionary meeting addressed by Rev. Geo. Smith upon the work in South America.

February 24. Friday, Christian Endeavor prayer meeting led by Mrs. Elkin. Topics: "Glorifying God in Our Home," Eph. 6:1-9.

February 25. Saturday, Meeting of the Boys' Club.

February 26. Sunday, In the morning Dr. F. Emory Lyon, Spt. of the Central Howard Association spoke upon "The Hope of the Prisoner." In the evening Dr. Geo. E. Day preached upon the theme, "Martha's Faith."

February 27. Monday, Monthly social and supper of the Armoret Henson Guild.

February 27. Monday, MV'ruL.. ilt Sunday School teachers' study class.

CHANGES IN MEMBERSHIP.

Addition.

By Baptism:

Miss Isabella Mathie, 815 31st St.

Miss Beatrice Cromb, 3204 S. Halsted St.

Mr. Wm. Clayton Comb, 3204 S. Halsted St.

Mrs. Wm. Wells, 2911 South Park Ave.

By Letter:

Miss Margaret Graham, 3133 Rhodes Ave.

Diminutions.

By Letter:

Mrs. J. J. Fisher.

Mrs. E. A. Moon.

By Death: Rev. T. D. Phillips.